

# AMERICAN LEGION

Cummings-Behlke  
Post 226

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830 E. Central Ave., Edgewater, MD 21037 • 410-798-9894

HAPPY  
EASTER



Never let an eligible veteran say:  
"Nobody ever asked me to join the American Legion."

[www.post226.com](http://www.post226.com) • APRIL 2025

## **PURSE & BASKET BINGO FUNDRAISER**



**Saturday, April 12th**

**Doors open at 3pm, Bingo at 5pm**

**\$30 – Bingo packet & Buffet**

**In addition to the bingo games there will be \$5 for \$100 boards, pull tabs, 50/50 raffle, silent & Chinese auctions, bake table, prize raffles, and door prizes.**

**Tickets are on sale at the Post or electronically  
(VENMO - @TINA-STOKES-2;  
CASH APP - \$BOFFY69; ZELLE - 443-623-2519)**

**See our Facebook page under Events for how you can help.**

**Proceeds benefit the building fund**

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## Commander's Message

No matter how mild the winter, spring always brings a welcome improvement to the weather. Before you know it, areas that were barren just weeks earlier are full of lush greenery.

**Prepare Your Yard** – You most likely don't take much care of your yard during the cold, wet, winter months. But when the spring rolls around, you'll need to do some work to make it look presentable again. If need be, take of leaves from last year and plant grass seed throughout your lawn to patch up any areas that need it. Remove any weeds, sticks, and brambles from your garden, and replant annuals as needed. Finally, break out the grill, hammock, and anything else you know you'll be using throughout the spring and summer months. It might not be warm enough to use them right away, but you'll be prepared to do so when the sun finally peeks out.

**Prepare Your Home** – Everyone knows about spring cleaning, right? Take some time to dust surfaces, clean out closets, and air the rest of your home out. Just getting some fresh air circulating throughout your house can improve your health and elevate your mood. As you move things around to dust and sweep, you might realize you have a ton of miscellaneous items around the house that you never really use. Instead of tossing them back into the closet to collect even more dust, consider having a yard sale. You'll end up with a little extra change in your pocket as well as some extra space in your home.

**Get Up and Out** – Obviously, the springtime is a great time to enjoy some outdoor activities. Even if you don't need to be outside to partake in an activity, you should still get up and get out. Take your laptop or book outside instead of staying cooped up in the house all day. Bring your guitar outside and let the neighborhood hear you as you practice. Paint a picture of your surroundings or take photographs of the flowers. We simply weren't meant to spend our life inside. Get out and enjoy yourself.

Larry Erwin  
Post Commander

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## **1st Vice Commander's Message**

Attention all Legionnaires that have not renewed your 2025 membership, you are now in an expired status and you will need to pay your dues or you will have to sign in as a guest to the post upon entering under someone else.

Legion membership continues ahead of our monthly goals. Post 226 Legionnaires, (as of 14 Mar) were at 90.598% of goal with 424 members processed for 2025. If you know of a veteran that is not yet a member, let's get them signed up and make them aware of what the Legion has to offer them and their family. Legionnaire dues are \$47 for 2025. My email is post226membership@gmail.com for questions regarding your Legionnaire membership. Please include your full name, membership ID number, and a good call back phone number.

Scott Smith  
1st Vice Commander

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### **Riders Friday Night Dinner**

**April 25, 2025  
5:00 – 7:00 pm**

**Half chicken with mashed potatoes,  
veggie, salad, roll, and dessert  
\$14 per plate**

**Bike night will follow dinner starting at 6pm,  
outdoors on the patio**

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## Chaplain's Message

I hope your Lenten season has been a pleasant period of reflection and prayer leading up to a joyous Easter. This year, like the last few years, we have been asked to join Mayo UMC and the Selby Community for Easter Sunrise service, 6:15 am at the Selby Clubhouse. Join us to witness the sunrise and worship on Sunday, April 20th. I hope to see you there.

On April 6th, we will be doing our Annual Blessing of the Bikes, at the Legion. We will bless bikes and riders as the riding season starts. Food and refreshments will be served following the blessing to celebrate, on the back patio.

Beyond the blessing, we will be busy preparing for The Car Show and Memorial Day Flag placement. We always welcome new volunteers. I will share more on the flags in May's newsletter.

As you're reading today, I would ask you to please take a moment to say this prayer.

"Lord, please heal the wounds of our veteran family both physical and mental. Please show me the way that I can be an instrument of your grace and love to my fellow legionaries and legion family. Watch over our active-duty brothers and sisters as we continue to live in a volatile world. Look after all our newly departed loved ones and their families. Keep us all safe in our daily lives, Amen"

As always, if you need something, want to chat, or just need someone to pray for you or with you. Email me or drop a note in my box.

For God and Country,  
Ray Leone  
Post Chaplain

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**SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION  
SQUADRON 226**



**Good Friday  
April 18th  
5 pm to 7 pm**

**Whiting Fish, Au Gratin Potatoes, Cole  
Slaw, Corn Bread**

**\$14 per plate ~ Guests Welcome**

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***CUSTOM CAR , TRUCK AND  
MOTORCYCLE SHOW***  
***TROPHIES, FOOD, REFRESHMENTS, & MUSIC***

***Saturday, June 7, 2025  
8:00 am until 3:00 pm***

Grounds open at 7am for pre-registered vehicles

Admission \$5 – Children 10 and under free

***Vehicle Registration***  
***\$15 by May 25th, \$20 day of the show***

Vendors: \$25 for the first table, \$5 for additional

Sponsor, vehicle registration, and vendor forms are  
available on our website under Special Events

***[www.post226.com](http://www.post226.com)***

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## Membership Information

Key cards are available by showing your 2025 membership card. If you were an early bird the card is free, otherwise it is \$3. Legionaries are free.

**Legion** – Dues are \$47. Make your check payable to "AL Post 226". Mail to P.O. Box 66, Mayo, MD 21106 or drop it in the *1st Vice* box at the Post.

**SAL** – Dues are \$35. Juniors (under 21) & dual members \$15. Make your check payable to "SAL Squadron 226". Mail to P.O. Box 622 Mayo, MD 21106 or drop it in the *SAL Membership* box at the Post.

**Auxiliary** – Dues are \$34, Juniors (under 18) are \$12. Make your check payable to "ALA Unit 226". Mail to P.O. Box 432, Mayo, MD 21106 or drop it in the *Unit Membership* box at the Post.

**Riders** – Dues are \$30 (Legion, SAL, or Aux must be paid first). Make your check payable to "AL Riders Post 226". Mail to P.O. Box 66, Mayo, MD 21106 or drop it in the *AL Riders* box at the Post.

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## Online Renewals

Members can pay their annual dues online. You will need your Member ID located on your membership card.

- Legionnaires: <https://mylegion.org>
- SAL: <https://legion.org/SAL-Renew>
- Auxiliary: [www.legion-aux.org/members](http://www.legion-aux.org/members)

*You may also be able to print your card on line*

# APRIL 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 5-7pm Pizza Night	2 7pm Auxiliary Mtg	3	4 5:30-7:00pm SAL Dinner 8pm DJ in the lounge	5 6-8pm Bar Bingo <i>Gold Star Spouses Day</i>
6 11 am Blessing of the Bikes	7 6:30pm Game Night	8 5-7pm Pizza Night 7pm Post Exec Mtg	9	10	11 8pm Music by <i>John Luskey</i>	12 8am -1 pm Flea Market 3pm Basket Bingo NO Bar Bingo
13 8:30-11 am SAL Breakfast <i>Palm Sunday</i>	14 6:30pm Game Night	15 5-7pm Pizza Night 7:30pm Riders Mtg <i>Tax Day</i>	16 Bulletin Articles Due	17 7pm SAL Mtg <i>Nominations</i>	18 5-7pm SAL Fish Fry 8pm Music by <i>Chesapeake Sons</i> <i>Good Friday</i>	19 1pm SAL Bull & Oyster Roast 6-8pm Bar Bingo
20 <i>Easter</i>	21 6:30pm Game Night	22 5-7pm Pizza Night 7:30pm Reg Post Mtg <i>Nominations</i>	23	24	25 5-7pm Riders Dinner 6pm Bike Night	26 6-8pm Bar Bingo
27	28 6:30pm Game Night	29 5-7pm Pizza Night	30			



# MAY 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2 5:30-7:00pm SAL Dinner	3 6-8pm Bar Bingo <b>Aux Event</b>
4	5 6:30pm Game Night	6 5-7pm Pizza Night	7 7pm Auxiliary Mtg <i>Nominations</i>	8	9	10 6-8pm Bar Bingo
11  <i>Mothers Day</i>	12 6:30pm Game Night	13 5-7pm Pizza Night 7pm Post Exec Mtg	14	15 7pm SAL Mtg <i>Elections</i> Bulletin Articles Due	16 5:30-7:00pm Auxiliary Dinner	17 6-8pm Bar Bingo  <i>Armed Forces Day</i>
18 8:30-11am SAL Breakfast	19 6:30pm Game Night	20 5-7pm Pizza Night 7:30pm Riders Mtg	21	22	23	24 8am Place flags on graves 6-8pm Bar Bingo
25	26 NO Game Night  <i>Memorial Day</i>	27 5-7pm Pizza Night 7:30pm Reg Post Mtg <i>Elections</i>	28	29	30 Commander's Happy Hour (🍷)	31 6-8pm Bar Bingo



## American Legion Auxiliary President's Message

I'd like to start off by thanking everyone who attended the March meeting. It was wonderful to see such a full house, especially with the large group of new members being initiated. Welcome aboard, everyone!

As of this writing, we are incredibly close to reaching our goal of 333 members. Wow, have we grown!

As the last few months of the administrative year wind down, I want to express my gratitude for your continued support. It's time to start thinking about what role you would like to take on, next year. We will be taking nominations for positions on our Executive Board at the May meeting. Please feel free to ask any questions you may have.

### Upcoming Events:

- April 5 – Gold Star Spouses Day. Honors the surviving loved ones of military service members who died while serving their country. Let's take a moment to appreciate their sacrifices.
- April 12 – Spring Flea Market. Reach out to Marla Abell if you would like a space. It's going to be a fantastic event!
- Friday Night Dinners – These continue to be a hit. Thank you to everyone who attends and helps, either on the day of or with desserts. *Please note, we will not have a dinner in April.*

Just a reminder that 2025 membership dues are due. You can mail your payment or pay it online. We are very close to the finish line!

Our next meeting is April 2 at 7pm. Hope to see you there!

Laura Causey  
Unit President



## Riders Director's Message

Welcome to all the new officers for this administrative year. Thank you to all the members for your continued support of our AL Riders Chapter. As Spring is near and we look forward to warmer weather, mark your calendar for some upcoming events.

- Blessing of the Bikes – Sunday, April 6 from 11am to 1pm at our Post, complimentary food provided.
- Riders Dinner – Friday, April 25th 5-7pm
  - Half chicken, mashed potatoes, veggie, salad, roll with butter, and dessert -- \$14 per plate
  - Bike night will follow dinner starting at 6pm, outdoors on the patio

Wednesday night rides will resume in early April. Keep a look out for our upcoming weekend rides and other events. Our next meeting is Tuesday, April 15 at 7:30pm.

Jim Hall  
AL Riders Director



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## Purple Up! For Military Kids

Join us in recognizing the more than 1.6 million military-connected children this April during the Month of the Military Child. The life of a military kid is a blend of unique adventures and challenges. It's important to keep in mind that they serve our country too, as part of a military family. Held on April 15th of each year, "Purple Up! For Military Kids" is a day to wear purple to show support and thank military children.



## HOW YOU CAN BE THE ONE

**What:** The American Legion's *Be the One* initiative encourages American Legion Family members, veterans, servicemembers and others to take action when they believe a veteran is at risk of suicide.

**Why:** To reduce the alarming number of veteran suicides.

**How:** Our goal is to destigmatize asking for mental health support, provide peer-to-peer support and resources, and educate everyone on how they can Be the One.

### **Who:**

#### **Veterans**

Talk with fellow veterans about how you are feeling. Ask for help when you think you need it. Know there are millions of people ready to help you. Remember your family and friends care.

#### **Non-veterans**

Ask veterans in your life how they are doing. Listen when a veteran needs to talk. Reach out when a veteran is struggling.

## RESOURCES

**American Legion support:** Stories, videos and promotional items related to this initiative are available for posts, members and others. Visit [betheone.org](https://www.betheone.org)

**For urgent help:** Veterans experiencing a crisis can call **988** and press **1** for mental health assistance. Counselors are available 24/7.

You can also text **838255** or visit the VA crisis line website [veteranscrisisline.net](https://www.veteranscrisisline.net)

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## Regular Events at the Post

*Monday* – Game Night, 6:30pm

*Tuesday* – Pizza Night, 5:00-7:00 pm (Last order at 6:45)

*1st & 3rd Friday* – Dinner, 5:30-7:00 pm

*Saturday* – Bar Bingo, 6:00-8:30 pm

*Sunday* – Queen of Hearts Drawing, 6:00 pm

*Check out our website and join our Facebook group.*

*Don't forget... We are always looking for volunteers.*

*Whether you can offer 30 minutes or 3 hours, it all helps and is appreciated.*

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## Email Addresses

*Post Commander (Larry)* – post226commander@gmail.com

*Post 1st Vice (Scott)* – post226membership@gmail.com (veterans)

*Post 2nd Vice (Carolyn)* – legionpost226events@gmail.com

*Post Chaplain (Ray)* – post226chaplain@gmail.com

*Post Service Officer (Matt)* – serviceofficer226@gmail.com

*Rental Coordinator (Stephanie)* – post226rentals@gmail.com

*SAL Commander (John)* – post226salcommander@gmail.com

*SAL Membership (Dennis)* – dwlong58@yahoo.com

*AL Riders Director (Jim)* – alr226info@gmail.com

*Auxiliary President (Laura)* – alaunit226@gmail.com

*Aux. Membership (Jeanette)* – unit226membership@gmail.com

*Bulletin and General Inquiries (Alicia)* – info@post226.com

# American Legion Auxiliary Unit 226

## FLEA MARKET

APRIL 12, 2025      8:00am – 1:00pm  
RAIN OR SHINE

It's clean out time again! Get your unwanted items together  
and join us at the American Legion for a Flea Market!  
10' x 10' Spaces are only \$15

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

*Circle One:*

Household Treasures

Crafts

Vendor: \_\_\_\_\_

# of Spaces \_\_\_\_\_

**You are responsible for taking unsold items with you.**

**Nothing is to be left behind.**

No food vendors!      Set-up starts at 6:30am

Tables will be provided (1 table per space) on a first come first  
serve basis. Spaces will still be sold without tables, same price.

No refunds!

Please send this form, along with your check or money order,  
payable to 'ALA Unit 226', before April 1st, to  
Marla Abell, 713 Londontown Rd, Edgewater, MD 21037

For more info, please contact Marla at 410-279-3954 or  
msblueyes1@verizon.net.

**Cummings-Behlke Post 226**  
**The American Legion**  
**PO Box 66**  
**Mayo, MD 21106-0066**

Web site: [www.post226.com](http://www.post226.com)  
Email: [info@post226.com](mailto:info@post226.com)

**BE THE ONE**

**ELIGIBILITY DATES**

**April 6, 1917 to November 11, 1918**  
**December 7, 1941 to Present**

***DATED MATERIAL***  
***NO DELAY PLEASE***